DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 079 424 TM 003 028

TITLE	1973-74 Illinois Statewide Aptitude High School Testing Program Statewide Norms: Academic Aptitude-Social Studies-Science-English-Mathematics-Functional Reports.
INSTITUTION	Illinois Univ., Urbana. Center for Instructional Research and Curriculum Evaluation.
PUB DATE	73
NOTE	5p.
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.65 HC-$3.29
DESCRIPTORS	*Achievement Tests; *Aptitude Tests; English; *High School Students; Mathematics; *Norms; Sciences; Social Studies; *State Programs; Testing
IDENTIFIERS	Illinois

ABSTRACT

The battery of the Illinois Statewide High School Testing Program is designed to provide measures fundamental to testing at the junior level. Tests will yield nine scores: verbal reasoning, grammar, usage, English total, natural science, social studies, problem solving, mathematical reasoning, and mathematics total. Testing will be administered in the students' respective schools by their own teachers within a period of 190 to 210 minutes. Results will be sent to the students. (CK)

ED 079424

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

1973 - 74

ILLINOIS STATEWIDE

HIGH SCHOOL

TESTING PROGRAM

TM 003 028

Statewide Norms

Academic Aptitude - Social Studies - Science - English - Mathematics

Functional Reports

Center for Instructional Research and Curriculum Evaluation (CIRCE)
College of Education - University of Illinois
270 Education Building - Urbana, Illinois 61801

FILMED FROM BEST AVAILABLE COPY

TESTS FUNDAMENTAL TO YOUR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The battery of the Illinois Statewide High School Testing Program is designed to provide measures fundamental to your testing program at the junior level especially. Some schools do test new seniors--or unusual cases; a few schools make use of testing both juniors and seniors. It includes measures of verbal reasoning, social studies, science, English, and mathematics.

The Program tests will yield NINE scores:

Differential Aptitude Test

1. Verbal Reasoning--an index of the student's ability to work with language materials

Test of English Skills

2. Grammar--indicates the student's ability in the use of conventions of correct and formal English such as diction, idiom, modification, and agreement
3. Usage--indicates the student's ability to communicate effectively
4. English Total--a sum of scores on 2 and 3 indicates the student's ability to express his thoughts in writing in a correct and clear manner

Tests of Reading Comprehension and Knowledge

5. Natural Science--indicates the student's ability to read and interpret the type of reading material which one finds in the physical and biological sciences; he must use some general knowledge of natural science
6. Social Studies--indicates the student's ability to read and interpret materials which one finds in social studies; he must use some general knowledge of social studies

Test of Mathematical Skills

7. Problem-Solving--indicates the student's ability to solve arithmetic, algebraic, and geometric problems
8. Mathematical Reasoning--indicates the student's ability to apply mathematical principles to data interpretation, set theory, and coordinate geometry
9. Mathematics Total--a sum of scores on 7 and 8 indicates the student's ability to use mathematical skills in solving problems and in interpreting data

All scores will be reported as percentiles based upon all juniors tested (this is a very satisfactory sample and distribution) or all seniors tested (this is an unsatisfactory sample because schools generally test only a few seniors as special cases). There will be a report showing raw scores and percentiles based upon results from this year.

SPECIAL: "EXPLANATION TO STUDENTS"

These explanation sheets are directed to the students who are to take the tests. The schools which have been using these sheets report considerable success.

The purpose of the material is two-fold: (1) To prepare the student to take the tests by helping him to realize what questions he will be asked on the Student Record Card--and why he is asked them! (2) To motivate the student to do his best by explaining to him what the tests are about and ways in which the results may be used.

The sheets, if you order them, will be sent to your school with your specimen sets before your testing date so that you may use them before testing.

If you want the sheets, we suggest that you use them as follows:

1. One or two days prior to the testing date you should distribute them to the students in a homeroom period, an English class, or some other common period.

2. After the students have read them, there should be a discussion of the sheets. This might take ten or fifteen minutes and should consist mostly of discussing pupils' questions. You also should discuss special uses (concrete examples) which your school has made, or intends to make, of the results.

3. The students should be encouraged to keep the sheets and to take them home.

Perhaps you will feel that you do not want to--or actually cannot--try it this year. But please be sure to indicate on the Order Blank whether or not you want them.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

The Program will be administered the same way it has been in the past. The testing is done in your school, by your teachers, in the testing period you specify within the months September through November (see Order Blank; we fill all first choices within the limit of our materials). Sometime before your testing period we will send to you a sample set of testing materials together with a letter indicating both the date on which the materials will be shipped from here and how many sets of testing materials will be shipped. You will be able to plan specifically on using them at the time indicated. You also will be able to make sure that the examiner and proctors study the detailed instructions and go through the testing procedure prior to testing. We send you complete materials for the testing: test booklets, answer sheets, and complete instructions. You return the materials to us and we do all the scoring. Nine scores will be obtained for each student who completes the tests.

The administration time for the Program is approximately 190 to 210 minutes.

We will send you the test results for your school in the forms described below. You may want to order additional sets of the fifth and sixth forms described--the Student Profile Card and the adhesive label.

Student Roster Report (1)

Your Roster Report will consist of two copies of an alphabetical listing of your students and will show for each the nine raw scores (number of items correct) and a percentile for each score.

Student Record Card (2)

You will receive a Student Record Card for each pupil. This is an IBM card (3½ x 7½") which contains the student's percentile scores and a profile of his scores by deciles. It also includes other pertinent information such as occupational choice, college choice (if any), and preferred activities and subjects.

Frequency Distribution (3)

Two copies of the Frequency Distribution of raw scores for the juniors in your school are included in the packet of materials you will receive. (This report, which is printed on computer-output paper, will give you a better picture of the distribution of your students on various tests in the Illinois Statewide High School Testing Program.)

Other information included in this report will be the mean raw score for your juniors for each test and the standard deviation of the scores for each test. The raw scores corresponding to three percentile points (the 75th, 50th, and the 25th) are also computed for your juniors only in this report.

School Mean Report (4)

An average percentile score for your students will be computed for each of the nine scores. Your "school means" will be printed on the roster report forms immediately following the last student entry. At the end of the Program we will set up school norms on these averages. This will permit you to compare your school's results with the results of other schools of like size and with schools having students of similar size or academic ability.

Student Profile Card (5)

The fifth report form you receive is a Student Profile Card which contains the pupil's name and a single punch for each test roughly indicating how well the student achieved. Test results are all too frequently put away in the student's record file or in some other likely pigeonhole. The Student Profile Cards are intended to put the test results in a descriptive, flexible, easy-to-use form which can be sent wherever the results will do some good. For instance, they can be distributed to the homeroom teachers. Similarly, they could be sent to English teachers, who would be particularly interested in how well their students did on the Test of English Skills. And, of course, they can be distributed to group advisers and class counselors. The cards are used by some as a basis for counseling with the pupil and his parents. We can furnish only one set without additional charge. However, for the cost of a penny per pupil per card you can obtain extra sets

of Student Profile Cards for your school. A school may order as many sets as it wishes. Some schools order an extra set which they distribute to homeroom teachers; others order as many as three sets for use with classroom teachers, homeroom teachers, and parents. It would be unusual indeed to order more than three extra sets, which would mean that you would have four Profile Cards for each student tested. A school testing fifty pupils could get two extra sets for one dollar. Be sure to indicate on your Order Blank if you want extra sets.

Adhesive Label (6)

One of the basic needs in reporting today is that of entering test results on the student's cumulative record in such a way that they will be reported automatically when a transcript is sent out. Not only colleges are asking for transcripts but so are many employers, and school people recognize the importance of reporting test scores along with the other information about the student to those who are competent to use them. The big problem has been the cost and time of personnel needed to transcribe test scores from the Student Record Card or the roster report to the cumulative record form. These adhesive labels (one for each pupil) include the student's name and all nine scores. These labels are approximately five inches long by one inch deep. They will be sent to the school in sheets on which the labels are alphabetized in the same way as the roster report. We firmly believe you will find these of advantage in communicating with outside agencies concerning the students' test results. One set of the labels will be sent with the Student Record Cards, the Student Profile Cards, and the roster reports. Extra sets can be ordered at a cost of one cent ($.01) per pupil per label.

WHO MAY PARTICIPATE

The Program is open to all high schools in the state of Illinois. The tests are designed for the junior and senior years of high school and, therefore, norms are available for only those grades. Some schools test both juniors and seniors their first year in the Program and then build a continuing program by testing juniors each year and testing only those seniors who are new to the school. Since many schools do test only those seniors who are new to the school, the senior norms are not as representative of all seniors as the junior norms are of all juniors.

TIME OF TESTING

As indicated on the Order Blank, you have your choice of four two-week periods of testing. The tests are given during late September, October, and early November.

In order to operate the Program with satisfaction to all, you are asked to indicate on the Order Blank your first and second choices of testing dates. Every effort will be made to give each school its preferred period; but the earlier your order arrives in our office, the surer we can be of satisfying your preference.

COST OF THE PROGRAM

The running costs of the Program are on a self-sustaining basis. Although the University bears the cost of housing, of professional personnel, of office management personnel, and of certain phases of research and development, the participating schools must carry the operating costs of clerical wages, scoring- and reporting-machine time, Program materials, and some of the research and development. Wages, materials, and machines are costing more; but we are trying to hold the line on the cost of the Program. This year the cost will be sixty-five (65) cents per pupil tested plus transportation costs. This is about seven cents per score--with report forms, bulletins on interpretation, and norms thrown in "for free." This cost is quite small for the amount of information you obtain to help with instructional decisions and accountability.

The only additional cost will be for transportation of materials sent to and returned from your school. This will include mailing costs of your specimen-set material (and the "Explanation to Students" sheets if you order them), the express or parcel post costs of shipping your tests, the cost of returning the materials to this office by express or parcel post, and the mailing costs of sending the reports to your school. We charge these transportation costs directly to each school--rather than spreading the total costs evenly over all schools by increasing the per-pupil charge--because there are wide differences in amount due to school size and distance from this office.

All testing materials will be shipped by parcel post unless you indicate on your Order Blank that you wish to have them shipped by Railway Express. You may return them by either facility, whichever is most convenient to you.

ORDER EARLY

It is important that you return your Order Blank as soon as possible. Please be sure to fill in all the needed information. Keep your copy of the Order Blank.

If you would like further information or have any questions or suggestions, please write to the Center for Instructional Research and Curriculum Evaluation (CIRCE), University of Illinois, 270 Education Building, Urbana, Illinois 61801.